

Outdoor Learning Opportunities:

Gardening - Will it Grow?

Standards: ALT.RPS.PS.2,4 S.LS.PS.1,3,7 SS.G.PS.3



Materials:

- The Surprise Garden by Zoe Hall
- Seeds
- Soil
- Marker
- Peat pots

Vocabulary:

- Soil
- Peat pot
- Prediction
- Grow

Read the book *The Surprise Garden* to the children. After discussing the book have the children fill peat pots with soil and then place seeds in the dirt. The children will each pick a place in the classroom to store their plant for the next few weeks. Children will make predictions, with their reasons why they think their plant will or will not grow based on its location.

Extension: Play the following seed game: *Will it Grow?* Some children will be seeds. Some will be water. Some will be sun. Some will be soil. One or two could be birds. (You can give them laminated pictures to carry to help them remember what their role is.) Create three different "bases" and then have the children run around for a minute. Announce that it's time to find a base. Once the children are at a base, have them freeze. Now see if any of the bases have a seed, sun, soil, and water. If one of those things is missing, will that seed grow? If there is only one seed, and also a bird, will that seed grow?

Guiding Questions:

- What types of seeds will you put in your garden?
- What do they need to grow?
- Why did you choose that place in the classroom for your plant to grow? Do you think it will grow or not?